

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06
TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01
OMB-01 L-03 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 AGRE-00
/099 W

-----311037Z 002685 /17

R 310808Z MAY 77

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7895

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJ: PRC CROP CONDITIONS

1. SUMMARY: WHEAT CROP BETWEEN PEKING AND SHIHCHIACHUANG
RATHER POOR WHILE WHEAT AROUND SHIHCHIACHUANG AND WEST
OF YANGCHUAN, SHANSI VERY GOOD. GENERAL RAINS IN WINTER
WHEAT AREA HAVE IMPROVED PROSPECT FOR WHEAT HARVEST, BUT
TOO LATE TO COMPLETELY OVERCOME EFFECTS OF DROUGHT.

2. USLO OFFICER AND AGROFFICER FROM HONG KONG CONGEN
TRAVELED TO TACHAI, SHANSI AND RETURNED TO PEKING BY TRAIN
MAY 19-21.

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3. IN AREA NEAR PEKING WHEAT WAS GOOD, A FIELDS
HAD THIN UNEVEN STANDS. SPRING PLANTED CROPS ARE VERY
GOOD.

4. BETWEEN PEKING AND PAOTING SOME WHEAT FIELDS POOR
OTHERS GOOD. RECENT RAINS COULD NOT COMPLETELY
OVERCOME EFFECTS OF EARLY DROUGHT. SPRING PLANTED

COTTON, CORN AND SOYBEANS UP TO GOOD STAND AND GROW-
ING WELL.

5. FROM PAOTING SOUTH TOWARD SHIHCHIACHUANG WHEAT
CROP A BIT IMPROVED BUT STILL MANY FIELDS WITH THIN
STAND AND UNEVEN GROWTH. THIS AREA HAS MOSTLY
SANDY SOILS POORLY SUITED TO WHEAT. MUCH CORN AND
COTTON INTERPLANTED WITH WHEAT, ALSO MANY FIELDS
PLANTED TOTALLY TO CORN OR COTTON.

6. WHEAT AROUND SHIHCHIACHUANG ALL VERY GOOD; NO
POOR FIELDS; NO SIGNS OF DROUGHT. WHEAT WITH THICK
STAND, STRONG STALKS, LONG HEADS AND GOOD COLOR.
SPRING PLANTED CROPS EXCELLENT CONDITION.

7. FROM SHIHCHICHUANG TO YANGCHUAN, SHANSI
PROVINCE LAND MOSTLY PLANTED TO WHEAT. WHEAT WAS
GENERALLY GOOD BUT SOME HIGH TERRACES WERE RATHER
POOR. LITTLE EVIDENCE OF DROUGHT; WHEAT CROP BETTER
THAN LAST YEAR. MOST WHEAT IN THE HIGHLANDS BEGIN-
NING TO RIPEN. RIVER BEDS WERE ALMOST DRY.

8. THE FEW FIELDS OF WHEAT SEEN AT TACHAI WERE VERY
GOOD. TACHAI GROWS MOSTLY CORN, MILLET, SORGHUM,
AND SOYBEANS. ALL THOSE CROPS IN EXCELLENT CONDITION.

9. RAIN FELL ALL DURING TACHAI VISIT AND RAIN HAD
FALLEN OVER THE ENTIRE AREA COVERED RETURNING TO
PEKING. MOUNTAIN RIVERS SHOWING HIGH FLOW DUE TO
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WIDESPREAD GENERAL RAINS.

10. WHEAT BETWEEN PEKING AND MING TOMBS HAS IMPROVED
DUE TO RECENT RAINS. MOST FIELDS RATHER GOOD BUT SOME
WITH THIN STANDS. WHEAT AROUND PEKING NOT AS GOOD AS
LAST YEAR.

DEAN

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NNN

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